

(WASHINGTON, DC) - Congressman Rob Wittman announced the award of a conservation grant of \$855,465 for the phase two acquisition of Crow's Nest in Stafford, Virginia. The grant money, to be awarded in 2009, will cover the purchase of 1100 additional acres.

"Crow's Nest is one of the Chesapeake Bay watershed's most important and imperiled natural areas. Since coming to office last December, I have worked extensively with state, local, federal and non-profit partners to preserve this important historical and cultural resource. I'm proud to announce today's funding and look forward to continuing our conservation efforts for residents of Stafford County and the Commonwealth of Virginia," said Wittman.

The grant money comes from the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program. Program funds are intended for use to acquire, restore or enhance coastal wetlands and adjacent uplands to provide long-term conservation benefits to fish, wildlife and their habitat.

The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and funded under provisions of the 1990 Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act.

Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He was re-elected to his first full term in November 2008.